

News Release, November 8, 2002 - Corps of Engineers to conduct maintenance repairs on Raystown Lake Dam Structure

Baltimore - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, announced today that Raystown Lake, located in Huntingdon and Bedford Counties, is scheduled to undergo maintenance repair work on the gated spillway structure.

The need for these repairs was identified through the Corps' program of regular periodic inspections of its structures. The Corps' system for inspection of all dam facilities includes regular semi-annual inspections by on-site personnel as well as five year periodic inspection performed by an external team made up of structural and mechanical engineers. The Corps follows up on any unusual findings by monitoring the condition on-site or performing in-depth evaluations when warranted.

This year's periodic inspection of the Raystown dam structure conducted in August revealed that concrete restoration work is needed on the gated spillway to maintain full operation of the tainter gate system. The repair work will be done in two phases. A temporary repair will be performed under water to protect the concrete from further deterioration. This temporary fix will insure that project personnel have full use of the tainter gates to help regulate the lake levels. The temporary fix involves placement of steel plates over deteriorated areas of concrete and is scheduled to begin about mid-November 2002.

A permanent repair is scheduled for the spring of 2003 and will require the dewatering of the immediate area around the tainter gates. This will be accomplished by use of maintenance bulkheads designed for this purpose. Once the site is dewatered, the deteriorated concrete will then be removed and replaced. This work will be completed with no compromise of the project's functions nor any anticipated draw down of normal lake levels.

For more information about the repair work, call the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Raystown Lake at (814) 658-6803.